

3 electrodes to said connection terminals within successive
4 pixel rows have a periodic repetition, and wherein N is the
5 minimum period of repetition.

1 Claim 25 (previously presented): The solid-state imaging
2 device of claim 1 wherein connections from said gate
3 electrodes to said connection terminals within successive
4 pixel rows exhibit a repeating pattern, and wherein N is
5 the minimum period of the repeating pattern.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicants will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Examiner contends that the minimum repeating connection of gate

electrodes in Figure 3 is two, noting the connection between gate electrodes 13a and 15a. Claims 7-9 and 12-25 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as being dependent upon rejected base claims.

Each of independent claims 1-6 has been amended to recite "N also being the minimum periodic unit of connections from said gate electrodes having the same modulo N value and belonging to different gate electrode groups to said connection terminals within said successive pixel rows." The applicants respectfully submit that these amendments overcome this ground of rejections, and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this ground of rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

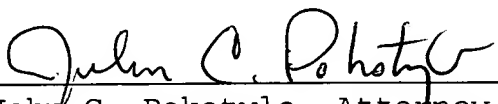
Claims 1-9 and 12-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Application No. JP-10-150601A ("the Yanai application"). The applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to each of independent claims 1-6 distinguish the claimed invention over the Yanai application. Therefore, each of these claims is not anticipated by the Yanai application. Dependent claims 7-9 and 12-25 are similarly not anticipated by the Yanai application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **May 16, 2006** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


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